METRO REGIONAL QUALITY COUNCIL MEETING Minutes
Friday, May 10, 2024

The Regional Quality Councils shall:
1. Support efforts and initiatives that drive overall systems and social change to promote inclusion of people who have disabilities in the state of Minnesota
2. Improve person-centered outcomes in disability services; and
3. Identify or enhance quality of life indicators for people who have disabilities.

Meeting Overview

1. **Introductions and Updates (45 min) @ 9:05am**
   - Introductions (Everyone) No need for introductions because everyone knows each other.
   - Staffing Shortage Workgroup Update (Kerri and Sophie)

     The next meeting is during the Annual Member meeting for the Arc Minnesota, so there are plans to reschedule it. The meeting will involve planning what the group wants to learn about CDCS and hopefully Poly Owens will come and speak more about CDCS. The date is undetermined, but that is the next meeting's plan.
   - Housing Workgroup Updates (Sophie)

     Please show and share the videos far and wide!

     The videos can be viewed either accessing the MRQC Housing Workgroup page found here, https://www.qualitycouncilmn.org/work-group/metro-housing-workgroup/

     or the MRQC YouTube channel found here, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNem6KyXiUIEaFFuEMnYGdg

     Here is the link to the website: https://www.qualitycouncilmn.org/resources/housing-resources/

     The group watched the first housing video and Sophie shared that a communication plan was in the works to share this more widely. Darrell has contacts with PHA and Metro Council and offered to send contacts to JoAnn and Sophie to distribute the videos. There was clarification that there are 4 long videos sharing different perspectives on affordable/accessible housing and then there are also 4 shorter videos sharing individuals with disabilities personal journeys in finding housing. Sophie shared that there have been 2 Facebook posts about the videos and there is a plan to post more posts in the coming week.

     Building manager allowed Region 10 to tour an accessible unit and shared how accessibility is different from person to person. Shelly is the person who lives there and did a good job of leading through the tour and showing accessibility features she added to her apartment. Maybe Region 10 can share this with Metro and other RQCs.
2. **Recruiting Members and Reviving Participation (Sophie)**

Sophie is creating a 1 pager which will be used for recruiting purposes. If anyone has any ideas on how to attract new members, please do share. Sophie shared the NEW one pager she created, and people shared feedback- There were suggestions about adding a picture of council people sitting around a table instead of the icons. There was also the suggestion of making the website more noticeable to see the workgroups to read more. There was also a suggestion to add the council statements and include a description of what the council does with the work they produce. Sophie will go back to JoAnn and Kerri and work on the one pager a bit more and potentially share some other versions at the next meeting or in the future.

3. **RQC Guidelines Workgroup (Kerri)**

   Those who volunteered: Robin, Frank, Sophie, and JoAnn.

   Workgroup to come together and review the guidelines for RQC and see if anything needs to be changed. Trying to get people from each council to come together and see about any changes. There are a few people from each RQC that will come together, and Kerri will reach out to the people who volunteered in the next few weeks to find a time to meet.

4. **10 Minute Break @9:50am**
5. **Workgroups (60 min) @10am**

   - Employment Workgroup

     This workgroup meets directly after the council meeting.

   - Culture of Safety/Data Action Group (DAG) Workgroup

     This workgroup meets separately outside of monthly council meetings. They meet the first Thursday of each month from 9-11am.
     The next meeting will be on **Thursday, June 6th 2024 from 9am-11am.**
     Join Zoom Meeting
     https://arcminnesota.zoom.us/j/81121977247?pwd=SDBmVW1RQWFlVHBHKy96a1JESElEUT09

     Meeting ID: 811 2197 7247
     Passcode: 678410

   - Staffing (DSPs & PCAs) Shortage Workgroup (Kerri)
     This workgroup meets separately outside of monthly council meetings. They meet the fourth Thursday of each month from 11am-12:30pm.
     The next meeting will be on **Thursday, April 25th, 2024 from 11am-12:30pm**.
     Join Zoom Meeting
     https://arcminnesota.zoom.us/j/87154192462?pwd=aDE2YnBUcVR1S2dvc0NzOUpFWCt5dz09
     Meeting ID: 871 5419 2462
     Passcode: 266371

Other Things to Share & Reminders

- Next council meeting is **on Friday, June 14th, 2024 from 9-11am.**
- Upcoming Virtual Events:

  - MRQC presentation: AVIVO employment services on **Monday. May 13th, 2024**.
    - Please look at the attached PDF flyer
    - Email Sophie or JoAnn if interested.

Employment Workgroup Agenda

1. **Employment Resources Presentation Events (Sophie)**
   Presentations will be held the second Monday of the Month in the evenings sometime between 5:30-8pm. They will be around 1 and ½ hours long with the last half hour devoted to audience questions. So far, they will all be virtual.
   - ✓ Suggestions given on who to invite to present:
     - Jerry Mellum, Micro Enterprises-
     - Jen Jensen, Goodwill , Work Incentives Connection,
     - Mona Patterson, Equality Pathways to Potential
     - Colleen Wieck DD Council Director (Sophie has contacts)
     - 211 united way (suggested by Darrell)

     Sophie and JoAnn are currently working on contacting the people and agencies listed above.
   - ✓ Who should we invite to attend?
   - ✓ We have heard back from a few organizations interested such as:
     - **AVIVO- employment services**
       May 13th 2024 from 5:30-7pm.
       Check out and share the calendar invite with people:
       https://www.qualitycouncilmn.org/calendar/metro-regional-quality-council-employment-presentation-series-avivo/
       Attached is the flier if you would like to share!
     - **VRS- customized employment and discovery process**
       June 10th, 2024, from 6-7:30pm
     - **Opportunity Partners- employment services**
       August 12, 2024, from 5:30-7pm
     - **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services**
       September 9th, 2024, time yet to be determined
     - **Rise – subminimum to minimum wage transition**
       October 7th, 2024, time yet to be determined - There is interest for this one to be hybrid (in person and virtual), but that has not been discussed yet and so if it is the flier and registration will reflect that.
   - ✓ Things to think about when organizing these kinds of events
     - decide whether event is virtual or hybrid
     - **providing CART captions, ASL interpreters – The first one in May does not have CART Captioning or ASL as it did come up quick, but the registration does ask if there are any accessibility requests, we will plan to hopefully do for future event.**
     - **Offering continuing education credits to attendees – There needs to be an approval process with the different boards to do this. We can research and provide this for a future event (likely next year's ones). Thank you, Jonathan, for sharing the different CEU Board websites!**
   - ✓ How to advertise our events?

- Sophie creates flyers for people to share, we showed the flyer at the meeting and the flyer for May will be attached to this email to share.
- We should create media content, like a radio spot, TV station commercial, etc., so we can reach out to people who aren't connected to disability services. There are contacts that we can reach out to and potentially get a spot to share.
- **Identify community leaders and go to where they are. Discord groups (searchable online), Arts groups, social media groups (Autism, Deaf and Hard of Hearing), social spaces. - Be weary of why the group exists and how we approach them.**
- Post on Eventbrite, community calendars, etc. (Sophie posted on Arc calendars)
- Post flyers on RQC website and RQC Facebook and other social media sites (Sophie posted on social media)

2. <u>Employment Resources Website (Sophie)</u>

We are in the middle of creating a comprehensive new Employment Resources website. **The website has the same layout as the Housing Resources Website and likely will be in the same location as the housing resources under the Information Tab on the top of the RQC Website.**

The website will include

- Table of contents
- Videos
- My Employment stories
- Resources for those looking for work and employers

Please share any ideas you have for the website. Also share if you have any resources to add.

3. <u>NEW IDEA: Transportation</u>

Transportation issues in relation to employment/Starting Transportation Workgroup?

- MRQC Transportation Workgroup Suggestions

There is much interest in a Transportation Workgroup, and Sophie can do follow-up emails with information about the Transportation Workgroup and set that up with (Sophie can lead that effort). Sophie will check with logistics and reach out creating a timing to meet separate from the general MRQC meeting.

- There is interest in having individuals from different councils and DHS departments come and do brainstorming sessions about different issues regarding transportation.
- There is interest in reaching out to Dr. McKinney the CEO of DHS and talk to her about a variety of things and starting to build a relationship with her. Sophie can reach out to her.
- The new Metro Move is available but if they are deciding the rate of 93% on time and the 7% are late but the on time, they are dictating an hour before pick up as on time and arriving at destination 30 min early and that is counted as on time.

Jonathan was able to calculate some of this good data and gives us a good idea of what Metro Mobility is lacking and not considering for people with disabilities. Instead of presenting to each other, it would be good to have "think tank" sessions or brainstorming sessions with leaders from various departments to collaborate on solutions for issues instead of just presenting back and forth to each other.

- Metro Mobility is planning to host multiple community events both in person and virtual for individuals to come share their experiences and feedback. The information and times for those can be read here: https://metrocouncil.org/News-Events/Transportation/Events/Metro-Mobility-conversation-2024-05-30.aspx
- Darrel is the VP of Met Council Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) Meets 1st Wednesday of each month: you can learn more and see their upcoming meetings here - https://metrocouncil.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Accessibility-Advisory-Committee.aspx Anyone is available to attend those meetings and there are times when the council has public comment requests.

Thank you for a wonderful meeting!!
Reach out if you have any questions or other things to share!